



PRINTER'S DEVIL REVIEW

Mary Beth O'Connor. *Gravity*.
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Mary Beth O'Connor

Gravity

The death of a star seems to last forever
We see it for years at night
And unless we are astronomers
or the star is as famous as a planet
we don't know exactly when it blinks out

Like a firefly in the summer's darkness
we're never certain exactly where it was
or which one it was we saw
and the fixed stars are always moving
in their own sphere

of time and distance
so far from us that we forget time
and space are simply aspects of each other
to our current astonishment because
after all we've sent paparazzi

rockets, and probes, and landers
out into this vast and precise fiction
and seen the photographs
And I'm not trying to imply that it was
filmed on a back lot in Hollywood

But sometimes I wonder how long,
how far we might travel—

We *believed* for a moment that we flew
as we ran and leapt down Inglewood Avenue
on our way to school